

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Smith Farm

other names/site number Smith-Grundy Farm

2. Location

street & number 2698 S. County Road 900 E.

☐ not for publication

city or town Plainfield

☐ vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Hendricks

code 063 zip code 46168-6785

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

Smith Farm
Name of Property

Hendricks County, Indiana
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-state
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	0	buildings
0	1	sites
0	3	structures
0	0	objects
5	4	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

none

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/animal facility
AGRICULTURE/processing
AGRICULTURE/agriculture outbuilding
AGRICULTURE/storage

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/storage
AGRICULTURE/storage
AGRICULTURE/storage
AGRICULTURE/storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Tudor
Revival
OTHER/barn, butcher shop, crib, chicken house,
cattle barn

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
walls BRICK
WOOD/Weatherboard
METAL/Steel
roof STONE/Slate
METAL/Steel
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more sheets.)

Smith Farm
Name of Property

Hendricks County, Indiana
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significant within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination if individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1924-1955

Significant Dates

1928

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A




Architect/Builder




Unknown

Hendricks County, Indiana
County and State

Acreage of Property 3.24 acres

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

3   
Zone Easting Northing

4   
See continuation sheet

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary justification:
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

name/title Thomas M. Meredith

organization Thomas M. Meredith, Architect, LLC date September 1, 2006

street & number P.O. Box 97 telephone 765-349-9493

city or town Monrovia state Indiana zip code 46157-0097

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Robert H. and Marjorie E. Grundy

street & number 2698 S. County Road 900 E. telephone 317-839-0632

city or town Plainfield state Indiana zip code 46168-6785

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance to the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

Narrative Description

The house is Tudor Revival, expressed in a simplified form of this popular style of the 1920's and 1930's. It is a two story asymmetrical composition of wood framed, brick veneer structure with a steeply pitched roof but little decorating detail. It is a side-gabled design with a single dominant offset projecting front gabled pavilion (east façade) with the projecting pavilion on the south side of the east façade. The gables lack the typical overhang, meeting the brick façade with a single crown molding. The pattern of window designs identifies the hierarchy of the interior spaces, the more important rooms having the larger windows and the least important rooms having the smaller windows. Typically the first floor windows are 10 light units and the second floor windows are 8 light units. Bathroom windows have fewer lights.

The east façade is the main entrance façade and faces the public street, County Road 900 East and sometimes referred to as Smith Road (photo # 11). The entrance door is located on the north side of the projecting gabled pavilion, set back from an arched opening in the brick façade. The entrance door is made from five wide vertical boards with a shallow arched top. Three tall narrow grouped multi light casement windows are placed to the south side of the east façade on the first floor. These windows open to the living room. On the second floor is a pair of multi light casement windows, grouped and narrow but not as tall as the first floor windows. These windows open to the sitting room for the master bedroom on the second floor. It is centered on the façade. To the north of the projecting pavilion, and on the first floor, are four tall narrow grouped multi light casement windows. These windows open into the dining room and are the same size as the windows in the living room. The second floor has two sets of grouped windows. To the south is a pair of grouped multi light casement windows and to the north is a set of three grouped multi light casement windows. These windows open into another bedroom. These are the same size as the other second floor bedroom windows and are narrow but not as tall as the first floor windows.

The north façade is a single gable designed façade (photo # 12). On the east side at the first floor, where the dining room is located, is pair of grouped multi light casement windows. These are the typically tall narrow windows that are also located on the first floor of the east façade. To the west is an awing type, multi light window which opens into the kitchen and is located above a counter. Directly above these windows and on the second floor are located two pairs of grouped multi light casement windows, same size as the other second floor windows, narrow but not as tall as the first floor windows. Above the second floor and opening into an attic is a single multi light square casement window centered on the façade.

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

The west façade has a single story projection for the breakfast room, directly off the kitchen (photo #13). It has a modified mansard roof with gray slate shingles and a flat top. The three exposed sides of this room each have a pair of grouped multi light casement windows, same size as the second floor windows. In the center of the west façade is the rear door. It has a small roof structure, with imitation wrought iron posts at both outside corners, that was added in 1981. The door is wood, painted with two vertical panels on the lower 2/3's and 8 light glass and lead came fixed window in the top portion. To the south of the rear door is a single multi light casement window, opening into the first floor half bath. This window is identical to the attic window on the north façade. Directly above the first floor half bath is a full bath. It has a single multi light casement window which is narrow but not as tall as the typical second floor casement windows. Directly above the rear door and almost centered on the west façade is a pair of grouped multi light casement windows, which opens to the second floor hall. To the north of this window is another pair of grouped multi light casement windows, which opens to the third bedroom located in the northwest corner of the second floor. These windows are identical to the other second floor bedroom windows and the second floor hall window.

The south façade is a multiple gable design due to the offset in the floor plan with the smaller gable in front of the larger gable and even with the east façade forming a cut-out in the south west corner of the floor plan (photo # 10). The single chimney is located on the south façade, centered on the smaller gable. The fireplace is centered on the south wall of the first floor living room. On either side of the chimney is a pair of tall narrow grouped multi light casement windows, the same height as the other living and dining room windows. At the second floor level on either side of the chimney is a pair of grouped multi light casement windows, the same height as the other second floor bedroom windows.

The exterior material is a modular brick laid in a running bond pattern, orangish in color. Window headers are typical soldier courses; the entrance door has a rowlock coursing arched header. Window sills are brick in the rowlock coursing.

The roofing material is gray slate. The original gutters, leaders and valleys are copper. The recent roof over the rear entrance door has an aluminum gutter and leader.

The interior is also basically simple in design with only a few decorative details. The entrance foyer is separated from the first floor hall by a 24 pane glass and lead comes wood framed door (photo # 3). The floor material in the foyer is tile (photo #5). The same tile is used for the fireplace hearth (photo # 2). The fireplace surround and mantle are brick with a simple crown mold shaped wood cap. The brick is multi earth tones and does not match the exterior brick.

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On either side of the first floor entrance hall are openings into the living room (to the south) and the dining room (to the north) (photo #1). Both openings are basket handle arches with reversed curve at the point. This arch design is used in the second floor south master bedroom and between the kitchen and the breakfast or sun room. The crystal chandeliers in the dining and living rooms, the entrance foyer and the second floor hall are original.

The staircase is Neo-Georgian with its continuous flowing handrail, simple balusters and a lack of a separate newel post (photo #4). It offers an elegant appeal to the hall even though it differs from the exterior Tudor style.

The kitchen is not original, having been rehabilitated with new cabinets, counters and appliances in the 1950's. The white tile with green tile top edging on the lower portion of the walls is original (photo #6). The narrow door on the south wall is to a small coat/broom closet; the short opening in the south wall is for an original refrigerator (photo #7). This refrigerator was called the Daffodil and was manufactured by a company called Alaska from Muskegon, Michigan. The compressor for the refrigerator was located in the basement. This household item does not now exist. The upper plaster walls and ceiling in the kitchen and breakfast room have a decorative raised finish which is original. The breakfast room still has the two original corner cabinets and hanging light fixture.

The original interior doors and door trims are wood with a dark natural finish typically throughout except in the kitchen, which has painted trim.

The original floor material is hard wood and remains in place, although now covered with carpet, except for the kitchen and breakfast rooms, which had linoleum over a wood sub-floor. The two bathrooms have the original white and black tile floors and the white tile with green tile top edging on the lower portion of the walls, similar to the kitchen.

The second floor has three bedrooms and a full bath. The hall is in the center of the floor. To the south of the hall is the master bedroom. The two windows face/open to the south. The bedroom has a sitting room to the east with its window facing/opening to the east (photos #8 & 9). Both of the other two bedrooms are located to the north of the hall, one bedroom in the northeast corner of the floor and the other bedroom in the northwest corner of the floor. The bathroom is to the west of the master bedroom, on the south side of the hall.

The walls and ceilings throughout for both the first and second floors are typically plaster.

The south room of the basement is unfinished and is the location of the furnace and other mechanical equipment. The north room is a large finished room with plaster walls and ceiling as

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is the small center room where the stair is located. The floor is concrete throughout the entire basement.

The house is in extremely good physical condition demonstrating the quality of the original construction, the care and continued maintenance it has received from the three owners since being built. The rear door on the west façade had a roof structure built in 1981 and new windows with insulated glass that match the original casement design and size were installed in 1986 throughout. Wall coverings, carpet and paint have been installed as normal maintenance.

The 79 acre parcel includes several outbuildings that are also included in this application. The farmstead from the mid 1920's included an English barn, a working butcher shop, a crib, a chicken house (only the foundation remains and is not included in this application) and a cattle barn. The exact date of construction for the barn and other outbuildings is not confirmed. However, it is likely they were constructed between 1924, when Smith purchased the property, and 1928, the year the house was built. The construction materials are those used most often during this period. The English barn was built first. The addition to the English barn has different material for siding and the concrete foundation is an extension of the concrete barn foundation. The butcher shop and cattle barn were most likely built at the same time as the addition to the English barn since they have the same type of siding. They are also built on concrete foundations.

An atlas dated 1904 and another dated 1878 indicate a structure on the property but are located in different areas of the original 40 acre property. It is logical that these indicate barns used in the farming of the property as there is no indication or information that would show a house had been constructed. The vast majority of construction techniques and materials are 20th century, milled lumber (joists, flooring, siding, bridging) 20th century nails, concrete foundation for example. However, the construction includes some hand hewn posts and diagonal bracing, typical of 19th century construction. The conclusion is that the earlier 19th century barn had been demolished and some of the members were reused in the construction of this existing barn.

The crib was probably built soon after the English barn and the chicken house is assumed to have been built when the butcher shop was built. All research indicates the out buildings were built on the property prior to the construction of the house. The house and four (4) outbuildings are counted as the five (5) contributing resources for the property, as indicated in Section 5, Classification/Number of Resources within Property.

The English Barn is a heavy timber structure on a concrete foundation with vertical wood siding (photo # 17). It has a large center sliding door on the east façade, which faces the barn yard, and two individual doors at each end of the façade. The north and south facades are the gable ends and have four simple barn four light windows; two on the lower or grade level and two on

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the upper loft level. There is a shed addition on the west side with narrow horizontal siding, normally used in residential construction of the period. The addition has a large sliding door at both north and south ends. This addition is most likely a very early expansion of the original barn and possibly built immediately after the barn. The ceiling joist of the addition are attached to the exterior side of the original vertical barn siding indicating that it was built after the barn was completed. The roof is corrugated metal, however, it had a wood shingle roof prior to the current metal roof.

The crib is located south of the barn (photo #16). It is a typical wood structure with a shed shaped metal roof. It is connected to the barn with a contemporary wood sliding gate.

The original cattle barn is a one story wood structure on a concrete foundation located to the south of the barn and to the east of the crib (photo # 18). It has the same type of siding as the addition to the barn, narrow horizontal wood, and is presumed to have been constructed at the same time. This building has another addition built on the east side in 1973, used by Robert Grundy for working on his airplanes. The roof is asphalt shingles.

The butcher shop is a one story wood building on a concrete foundation and is located just to the north of the barn (photo #14). It also has the narrow horizontal wood siding as on the cattle barn and addition to the barn.

Only the concrete foundation remains of the chicken house. It is located north of the butcher shop. However this foundation is not counted as a resource in this application.

Also, there are three recent metal silos on the property. All of these outbuildings are in good to excellent condition. The orchard of pecan, heartnut, English walnut and persimmon trees was planted after 1970 when Robert Grundy, the current owner, retired from farming (photo # 19). The silos are counted as noncontributing structures; the orchard is counted as a noncontributing site and the field for crops is not in boundary, as indicated in Section 5, Classification/Number of Resources within Property.

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Narrative Statement of Significance

The Smith Farm meets the National Register Criterion A in the theme of agriculture and Criterion C in architecture. The house is significant as a fine example of Tudor Revival architecture in Hendricks County (Criterion C) and the farm is one of the few remaining working farms in Hendricks County that were initiated from original land grants from the 1830's (Criterion A).

Hendricks County was organized by an act of the Indiana State Legislature on December 20, 1823 and officially began operations on April 1, 1824. Hendricks was the 51st county created in Indiana and was named for William Hendricks, Governor of Indiana at that time. Transportation systems have influenced the growth of Hendricks County. U.S. 40 (the National Road), also known as Washington Street, U. S. 36, also known as Rockville Road, and the railroads made the county more accessible from Indianapolis and other points east. The topography of Washington Township specifically and eastern Hendricks County in general with its gentle hills and flat grassland has always made it ideal for raising stock and planting crops. However, its proximity to the growing city of Indianapolis and Marion County has led to its suburban residential character as it is today.

Over the years, the land that had been used for farming has been converted to residential use. The Hendricks County Interim Report, dated 1989, states that only "3% of Washington Township population remains farmers." Today this number is much smaller. The Hendricks County Plan and Building Department has recorded the approval of over 12,000 new lots since 1980 in Washington Township, the vast majority of them being platted during the decade of the 1990's. Guilford Township, south of Washington Township, has recorded an additional 2000 lots. These records are only for the county and not those approved by either incorporated town of Avon or Plainfield.

Although there remain a few historic houses from the 19th century, and as noted in the Hendricks County Interim Report, a survey of the area verifies very few houses that can be logically claimed as "farm houses." Some have been demolished entirely and have been replaced with modern ranch style houses of the mid to late 20th century. The few that do remain are only rated "contributing" in the Hendricks County Interim Report and often have been remodeled with contemporary materials, such as vinyl siding, or additions.

The original 40 (plus or minus) acres were registered to Burr P. Dennis in a land grant dated fifteenth day of May, 1837 and signed by Martin Van Buren, President of the United States. This is the parcel where the house and outbuildings are located. Burr P. Dennis was born at Bull Run, Virginia to John and Elizabeth Harrison Dennis. The history of Hendricks County states Dennis settled in Washington Township in 1835; however, the land grant records indicate

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he had accepted another land grant on the sixth day of June, 1832 in the same township. He married Nancy Appleton on February 9, 1822 in Marion County, Indiana and had 11 children between 1823 and 1846, three who did not live beyond infancy.

Additional records indicate this property was owned by C. and J.L. Hunt in 1878. In 1886 the ownership is listed to David H. Saferight. Information prior to 1886, such as owner's names, dates of transfer and purchase price, is not known. However, the following information was taken from Hendricks County deed records. On May 11, 1912, David M. Saferight sold the property, 41.97 acres, to Arthur G. Blair for \$4,197. On October 21, 1912, Arthur G. Blair sold the 41.97 acres to William R. Elliott for \$6,000. On February 28, 1917, William R. Elliott sold the 41.97 acres to Robert Geddes for \$6,500.

On the 30th day of September, 1924, the 40 +/- acre parcel was purchased by Romie D. Smith from Robert Parker Geddes and Cora S. Geddes (his wife). An 18 acre parcel adjoining to the south was also purchased from the Geddes' at the same time and is recorded on a single transfer of deed record. All parties were residents of Marion County, Indiana. Robert Parker Geddes was the treasurer of Havens & Geddes Company, Wholesale Dry Goods, 200-14 South Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Indiana and resided at 404 East 12th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. The Hendricks County records also indicate an ownership of neighboring property in Washington Township by Geddes Realty Company. Since Robert Parker Geddes was an officer in a wholesale dry goods company in Indianapolis, there is the possibility he was speculating on property in Hendricks County and not an active farmer. His residency was listed in Indianapolis.

The exact farming history of this parcel is not known, yet there is an indication that there was a structure on the land from the 1904 Standard Atlas of Hendricks County when it was owned by David H. Saferight and in 1878 when it was owned by C. and J.L. Hunt. No structure from the mid to late 19th century remains on the property or any adjoining land.

The Smith Farm, as one of the few remaining working farms in eastern Hendricks County, has elevated importance as a historic property. It is an intact early 20th century farm with its house and outbuildings built in the 1920's. It continues to be a working farm today.

Romie D. Smith was born about 1893. His wife, Stella M. Smith, was born about 1895. They had two sons, Denton, born 1914 and Thomas, born 1918. Romie Smith worked at the Union Stock Yards in Indianapolis for Jas. W. Hill & Company, a live stock dealer. In the early 1920's they lived at 1141 E. 35th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

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It seems logical that a person who was a live stock dealer at the largest stock yards in central Indiana could desire enough land for a farm to raise his own livestock. So in 1924, Smith purchased the property in rural Hendricks County, just west of Indianapolis and Marion County. The original property as purchased by Smith was approximately 60 acres. The area of eastern Hendricks County was flat and good farm land.

A migration from the inner city to a rural setting may have been typical of the period. Hendricks County offered some families an opportunity for more room but with access to the downtown area of Indianapolis. U.S. 40 (the National Road or Washington Street in Indianapolis) was the main east-west highway through central Indiana and Indianapolis and is less than a ½ mile south of this property.

During the 1920's, Indianapolis was expanding rapidly. The north side seemed to be more affluent than other areas of Indianapolis and it was demonstrated in the style and size of the new homes. The popular styles were Tudor Revival, Colonial Revival, Dutch Colonial Revival, English Cottage, English Manor, Norman Farmhouse and others which attracted the many residential clients. Well known builders/designers of the day were building speculative ventures; F.M. Bartholomew, H.L. Simons, Forest Kellog and Bridges & Graves. Popular architects of the period, Frank B. Hunter, Thornton & Rodecker, Rubush & Hunter, D.A. Bohlen & Sons and others were busy with their work. Today the Meridian-Kessler area and other north side neighborhoods have an abundance of Tudor Revival houses.

In 1928 Romie Smith built a Tudor Revival house on his property in Hendricks County. Although the house is not as large as some in the Meridian-Kessler area, it was of solid construction. The choice of the Tudor Revival style and the quality of construction was a sign of his business success. He was copying the popular style of the period that was being built on the successful north side of Indianapolis and that was designed by the most sought after architects of the day. The house follows the typical characteristics of Tudor Revival: asymmetrical composition of wood framed, brick veneer structure with a steeply pitched roof and casement windows but with more simplified details than the high styled Tudor Revival houses in the Meridian-Kessler area of Indianapolis.

The construction of the English barn and other outbuildings allowed him to participate as a "farmer" although he did not immediately leave his primary job as a livestock dealer. Since Romie Smith had owned the land for the 4 years prior to construction of the house, the exact date of construction is not confirmed but could have been constructed between 1924 and 1928, the date the house was constructed, or soon after the house was built. The butcher shop and cattle barn were most likely built at the same time as the addition to the English barn since they have the same type of siding.

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There are only four properties designed in the Tudor Revival style in Hendricks County. Three of these are private houses. The fourth is a theatre. The Hendricks County Interim Report lists 12 houses designed and built in the English Cottage style, a style that includes some details similar to those used in the Tudor Revival style. However, all of these are very small houses and were built in the 1940's. Their significance is from a different period than the Smith House and all, except one, are rated "c" for contributing.

The earliest built Tudor Revival house is the Romie Smith house and is the only Tudor Revival house in Washington Township in eastern Hendricks County. This property is rated "outstanding" in the Hendricks County Interim Report. The Tudor Revival style is also unique to the rural area whereas the other three Tudor Revival properties are very urban in their settings. The Romie Smith house continues to be maintained in excellent physical condition. Also, it remains original to its 1928 design, even with the small roof structure over the rear entrance door on the west façade.

In 1932, another Tudor Revival house was built at 482 East Broadway Street, Danville, in Center Township. The Hendricks County Interim Report notes this house as the last house built in the identified Broadway Street Historic District (not yet listed in the National Register of Historic Places.) This house is a brick veneer, side gable design with a single dominant front gable. It is approximately the same size as the Romie Smith house. It is rated "outstanding" in the Hendricks County Interim Report. However, it currently has a recent one story addition to the east side of the original house. Although it has been designed to match the original Tudor Revival style, it is very much a modern addition and not completely compatible to the original house.

The third Tudor Revival house is located on East Main Street in Plainfield in Guilford Township. It is a two story stone veneer, hip roof design and is larger than the Romie Smith house. It was built in 1939. This property is also rated "outstanding" in the Hendricks County Interim Report. From the exterior it remains very original.

The Royal Theater is located in Danville on South Washington Street in Center Township. This is within the Courthouse Square Historic District, as identified in the Hendricks County Interim Report (not yet listed in the National Register of Historic Places). It was built in 1914 and remodeled in 1927. The Tudor Revival style of the exterior was a result of the 1927 remodel. Although this property is rated "outstanding" in the Hendricks County Interim Report, it exhibits the most wear and damage. The original second floor windows have been replaced with new aluminum windows that are not entirely compatible to the original, the store fronts have been replaced with modern aluminum store fronts and the general physical condition is less than adequate of good maintenance.

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

In 1934 Romie Smith and his son Denton opened a "modern meat market" in Plainfield. The announcement in the Plainfield Messenger dated February 22, 1934 states "They will handle all kinds of meats, home killed and will deliver any place in town. Mr. Smith knows good cows, hogs etc. and will carry the best of meats."

The earliest address that can be verified was R. #2, Box 55, Indianapolis, Indiana and was serviced out of the Bridgeport (Marion County-Westside) branch of the U.S. Post Office. A later address of the property was 2910 S. Smith Road, Indianapolis, Indiana. In the 1920's and 1930's this area was rural and access to the house was by a long gravel driveway from the south. The driveway was subsequently made into a gravel road and continued north to Morris Road, which was the state in 1960 when Robert H. and Marjorie E. Grundy purchased the property. The road continues to be named Smith Road as well as County Road 900 E.

In February 1937 Smith sold the property to Dr. Loran I. Homaday. A native of Brownsburg, Indiana, Dr. Homaday was born on January 30, 1885, the son of Abraham and Priscilla (Farmer) Homaday. He had been a veterinarian in Bridgeport, Plainfield, Ladoga, Brownsburg and Rockville. He was a 1907 graduate of Chicago Veterinary School. After selling the property, Romie Smith moved back to Indianapolis and resided at 23 S. Illinois Street. The property continued to be farmed by Bodenhamer, a neighbor who was a full time farmer.

In November 1960 Homaday sold the property to Robert H. and Marjorie E. Grundy, the current owners. By this date the size of the property had increased to approximately 79 acres. Prior to purchasing the property the Grundy's lived at 1818 South Lawndale, Indianapolis, Indiana, an address close to Weir Cook Airport (Indianapolis International Airport), where he worked.

Robert H. Grundy was born May 31, 1912. He began a career in aviation in 1928 in Peoria, Illinois. He was a barnstormer for the American Shows in the 1930's. Later he was a pilot for TACA Airlines in Mexico, Central and South America, a crop duster for Delta Airlines and taught cadets to fly at Parks Air College in St. Louis, Missouri during World War II. He flew the Boeing 247 that now hangs in the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. and was a test pilot for the Civil Aeronautics Administration, now the Federal Aviation Administration.

While flying over Hendricks County, Grundy located the property, and soon afterwards, asked the owner Loran Homaday if he would sell it. Grundy left flying in 1959 and farmed the property himself until 1970 when he retired. The Grundy's usually had about 40 head of cattle, 150 to 200 hogs, 3 milk cows, 1 horse and 500 chickens. In addition, they farmed a total of about 600 acres in the area, raising corn, soybeans, wheat and hay. After retirement he worked on rebuilding an airplane and had an interest in growing pecan, heartnut, English walnut and persimmon trees. The farm was worked by a neighbor and continues as such today.

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

Eastern Hendricks County has seen a continued growth since the 1920's and 1930's. What was once a farming community is now a "bedroom" community replaced with subdivisions of houses and strip type shopping centers. The Smith Farm is one of only a few remaining working farms in Washington Township and the entire eastern portion of Hendricks County.

The Tudor Revival house remains an outstanding example of this style and expresses its popularity of the period. It is a unique and architecturally significant design in the historically rural Hendricks County. The outbuildings are significant as intact representations of farm buildings of the early 20th century.

On June 19, 2007, and at the request of the Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board, a search was made of the Agriculture Census for Hendricks County for the years 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880 to locate any information regarding the crops and livestock produced from this land. No additional information was found.

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

Agriculture Census for Washington Township, Hendricks County, Indiana for 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880. Indiana State Archives, Indiana Commission on Public Records, 6440 E. 30th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Verbal Boundary Description

The property is a rectangular parcel measuring 276 feet in the east/west direction by 511 feet in the north/south direction. It is bordered on the east, south and west by a fence and on the north by the corn field. Boundary is further defined by the sketch map included with the nomination.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the house, which is the most architecturally significant structure, and the outbuildings. The house style, Tudor Revival, is unique in this rural setting. The outbuildings are in good to excellent condition and are significant for their connection to the property as a working farm from the early 20th century.

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

Photograph Log

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing north, view of Dining Room
7. Photo # 1

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing east, view of Living Room
7. Photo # 2

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing east, view of 1st Floor Hall and Entrance Foyer
7. Photo # 3

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing west, view of 1st Floor Hall and Stair
7. Photo # 4

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing east, view of Entrance Foyer Tile Floor
7. Photo # 5

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing west, view of Kitchen and Breakfast Room beyond
7. Photo # 6

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing south, view of Kitchen (original location of refrigerator) and Rear Door
7. Photo # 7

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing east/south-east, view of Second Floor Master Bedroom
7. Photo # 8

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing east/north east, view of Second Floor Master Bedroom
7. Photo # 9

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing north, view of House, south façade
7. Photo # 10

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing west, view of House, east façade
7. Photo # 11

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing south, view of House, north façade
7. Photo # 12

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing north-east, view of House, west and south facades
7. Photo # 13

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing east, view of Butcher Shop, west facade
7. Photo # 14

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing east, view of Butcher Shop, House, Barn
7. Photo # 15

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing west, view of Cattle Barn, Crib, Barn
7. Photo # 16

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Smith Farm, Hendricks County, Indiana

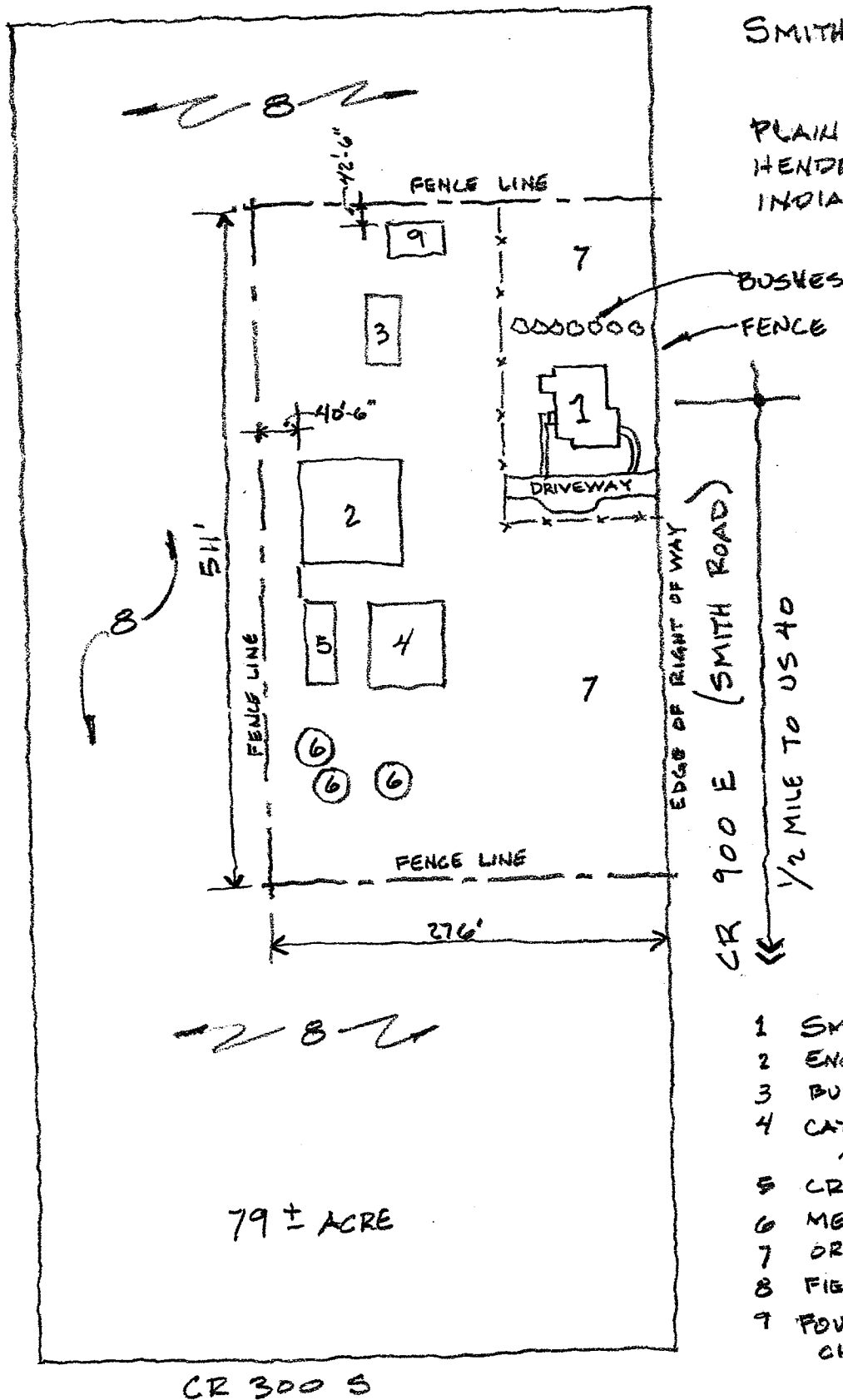
1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing west/northwest, view of Barn, south and east facades
7. Photo # 17

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing south-east, view of Cattle Barn
7. Photo # 18

1. Smith Farm
2. Hendricks County, Indiana
3. Thomas M. Meredith
4. April 23, 2006
5. DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
6. Camera facing north, view of Orchard and Cattle Barn
7. Photo # 19

SMITH FARM

PLAINFIELD
HENDRICKS COUNTY
INDIANA



79 ± ACRE

- 1 SMITH HOUSE (CONTRIBUTING)
- 2 ENGLISH BARN (CONTRIBUTING)
- 3 BUTCHER SHOP (CONTRIBUTING)
- 4 CATTLE BARN/
AIRPLANE HANGER (CONTRIBUTING)
- 5 CRIB (CONTRIBUTING)
- 6 METAL SILOS (NON-CONTRIBUTING)
- 7 ORCHARD (NON-CONTRIBUTING)
- 8 FIELD FOR CROPS (NOT IN BOUNDARY)
- 9 FOUNDATION OF
CHICKEN HOUSE (NOT INCLUDED)

SITE SIZE — 3.24 ACRE